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Local Boards

Representation of Adi-Andhras and Christians in the taluk boards in Nellore district.

*148 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state how many Adi-Andhras and Christians are represented in each of the taluk boards in Nellore district at present?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA:—"May I know why no information has yet been received?"

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBRAYAN:—"Because we are at the mercy of the President of the District Board concerned for information. We cannot place it on the table unless he supplies it."

Conversion of the Dornal Road into a trunk road.

*149 Q.—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI: Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the Dornal Road in Nellore district is not maintained properly by the District Board;

(*b*) whether the President, District Board, and the District Magistrate of Nellore have requested the Government to treat it as a trunk road; and

(*c*) if so, what is the decision of the Government in the matter?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

Excise

State aid to the industry for the production of power alcohol.

*150 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) what proposals have been made to Government by the Kanara Indian Christian Civic League and other bodies for the establishment of, or fostering or aiding, the industry for the production of power alcohol; and

(*b*) what steps Government have taken or are in contemplation for this purpose?

A.—(*a*) The Kanara Indian Christian Civic League proposed in July 1927 that distilleries might be established in the South Kanara district for the production of power alcohol. No other body has made any proposal to the Government on the subject.

(*b*) The Government have not taken any action as they were not satisfied that the existing supply of this alcohol was insufficient to meet the demand and that a distillery in South Kanara would be able to withstand foreign competition.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA:—"With reference to the answer to clause (*b*), may I enquire whether the existing supply is foreign or indigenous."

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The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Evidently from the question the Government thought the hon. Member was referring to foreign supply."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know how the Government arrived at the conclusion that if indigenous supply could be got by a private firm, it could not compete with the foreign supply ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" By comparing the cost of foreign supply with the cost at which local manufacture can be sold in the market."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" I want to have some idea as to what the foreign material would cost, and also the way in which the Government arrived at their conclusion."

Medical

Facilities for the training of nurses and midwives in the Presidency.

*151 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state the facilities obtaining in the Presidency for the training of nurses and midwives and 'dhais' at suitable and convenient centres ?

A.—Facilities for the training of nurses, midwives and 'dhais' exist at the following places in the Presidency :

(i) Nurses—

Nurse pupils are trained at the following centres :—

(1) General hospital, Madras.
(2) Rayapuram hospital, Madras.
(3) Victoria Caste and Gosha hospital, Madras.
(4) Headquarter hospital, Vizagapatam.
(5) Do. Guntur.
(6) Do. Tanjore.
(7) Do. Salem.
(8) Do. Calicut.
(9) Do. Mangalore.

The question of increasing the number of centres is under consideration.

(ii) Midwives—

Training schools for midwifery pupils exist at the Government hospital for Women and Children, the Government Victoria Caste and Gosha hospital and the Raja Sir Ramaswami Mudaliyar Lying-in hospital, Madras. Pupils can also be trained in any mufassal lying-in hospital in charge of a female medical practitioner or to which a qualified European or Anglo-Indian midwife is attached. It is understood that midwives are also trained at the Christina Rainy hospital, Tondiarpet.